

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
HELD WEDNESDAY, 27 AUGUST 1986, AT 6:30 P.M.  
IN ROOM H-762, HALL BUILDING, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Chairperson John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. without quorum.

PRESENT:

Co-Presidents:

Karen Takacs  
Scott White

Arts and Science:

Mike Foster  
Jim Locke  
Bettina Rosenberg  
Emma Tibaldo

Commerce:

Karen Ashton  
Tony Ghannamy

Fine Arts:

Ian Fleet  
Francois Gurik (7:20)

ABSENT:

Arts and Science: Maria Calderone (W/R), Glen Cheverie (W/R), Joe Fortune, Amanda Masterman, Linda Piovesan, Julie Smith, Scott Townsend  
Commerce: Scott Bergen (W/R)  
Engineering: Dan Artola, Jon Jolivet  
Fine Arts: Elizabeth Isaac, Keren Penney (W/R)

Advisors to the Board Present: Cherine Hamam, Programming V.P.; Brent Jones, Services V.P.; Gracie MacDonald, Communications V.P.; Scott Robertson, Education V.P.; Marc Sicard, External V.P.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Emma Tibaldo asked when the Cusacorp budget would be handled. Karen Takacs suggested that it would be best to wait until there are representatives from Cusacorp present at the meeting to answer questions, and as such Item 7 should be removed from the Agenda for this meeting. The Agenda was approved with this change.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Informal Meeting Held July 30, 1986:

Chairperson John Moore deferred this Item until quorum is achieved.

4. Chairperson's Remarks:

Chairperson John Moore wished to make it clear that Mike Foster's resignation at the 52nd Meeting, which was tendered by his sister, should in fact be revoked. Chairperson John Moore also reminded the Directors that the Steering Committee meets downtown on Thursdays before Board Meetings to set the Agenda, and all items for consideration for the Agenda should be written down and placed in the Chairperson's mailbox before the Steering Committee meets.

5. Reports:

a) Co-Presidents Report:

Karen Takacs stated that she, Scott White, and Brent Jones had a very productive meeting with Dan Artola and Peter Markhauser of Engineering and Computer Science Students Association (ECA). ECA expressed that they wished to work with CUSA and hoped to come to some agreement on the service contract and to pay off last year's debt. There will be regular weekly meetings between CUSA and ECA. CUSA and ECA are currently working on options to the service contract. All developments in this regard will be brought to the Board.

Regarding the Women's Centre, Karen Takacs reported that regular meetings are being held with CUSA, GSA, CUFA, CUNASA, Women's Studies Students' Association, and the Simone de Beauvoir Institute. They are presently looking into the funding required to hire someone to evaluate the type of women's centre needed at Concordia.

Karen Takacs stated that Orientation has been an incredible success thanks largely to the efforts of Frank Benson. She also thanked Bettina Rosenberg and Jim Locke and the V.P.s for all their hard work. She added that the orientation program probably cost more than originally thought but it has been well worth the expense.

Karen Takacs announced that a "Telbec" had just been received from the Quebec government regarding loans and bursaries. The government has decided to change the rules--now a limit has been set at 22 sessions of financial aid, and a maximum of 10 years for an undergraduate degree. However, if a student switches programs or changes university, the time spent counts towards the total time allowed. The government is sending letters out at present to students who have applied, and are counting on, financial aid but might not be eligible now because of the change in rules. This has been done with no warning nor has any transitional period been established.

Karen Takacs urged the Directors to do more than merely attend Board meetings. She stated that the Board should be setting policy and making decisions, and this requires a good, working Board.

Regarding the Academic Materials Fee, Karen Takacs explained that this fee was imposed by the Board of Governors on June 19th, and amount to \$3.50 per credit. For the average students this means an additional \$105 per year (plus interest after the billing date). CUSA's lawyer is of the opinion that CUSA could take the Administration to court for violating the contract; however, the Ombudsman says that precedence has been set whereby the course calendar is considered part of the contract, and in the calendar there is reference to the University's right to increase fees. Karen

Takacs stated that she would like to get the Governors to hold off imposing the fee for one year, and the Co-Presidents might write to each Governors to state that we have a case against the Administration and are proceeding through the legal channels. Peter Wheeland suggested sending one student to Small Claims Court as a test case, and to use the case as a example to tell the University that CUSA could organize a campaign to send other students to Small Claims Court. Lorne Gray suggested going directly to the Rector with the lawyer's opinion. Karen Takacs stated that they tried at the Board of Governors Meeting when the fee was proposed. She added that a number of Governors expressed concern over violating the contract--and those Governors could probably be counted on in a vote to rescind the fee for one year.

(7:30)

Lorne Gray asked when the Board of Governors would meet next, and Karen Takacs responded that the next meeting was scheduled for September 18th, and so speed would be required. Karen Takacs stated that she would like a mandate from the Board for the Co-Presidents to go to the Governors as well as to investigate Small Claims Court and other options.

Emma Tibaldo asked what will happen when the students are billed in September if they choose not to pay. Karen Takacs responded that interest would be charged after October (from one source) or after January (from another source). Lorne Gray stated that in the Accounts Office where he works part-time, the fee is implied to students as a tuition increase, and is scribbled onto the bottoms of their contracts.

Karen Takacs stated that the Co-Presidents will draft a letter to the Board of Governors which will be available to the Directors to make amendments as they see fit early next week.

Karen Ashton asked how the Capital Campaign Contribution and the Academic Materials Fee differ from fees to be assessed on the future. Karen Takacs commented that that question was part of their argument, adding that this might set a precedent whereby students are charged extra fees for everything.

(7:45)

Karen Takacs referred to the letter that the Co-Presidents will draft, and suggested that the letter be written to suggest that going to Small Claims Court is one of the options which CUSA might pursue, and the negative publicity that this would generate might be enough to convince the Board of Governors not to impose the fee at this time. Lorne Gray suggested that proceedings in Small Claims Court be initiated immediately because the Governors might stall unless they see concrete action being taken. Karen Takacs added that it will not be "CUSA" in Small Claims Court but an individual student.

Karen Takacs urged the Directors to become more involved in the Association and invited them to attend the weekly Executive Meetings.

Scott White added that the handbooks were being distributed at various locations on both campuses. Chairperson John Moore stated that a very professional job had been done in creating the handbooks this year and extended congratulations to those involved.

b) Executive Reports:

Services V.P. Brent Jones reported that the move to the Campus Centre was almost complete and that the office would be in operation on Tuesday, September 2nd. He stated that the Boni-Campus Discount Cards were available at present and the Cusasaver Books would be available within a week. He reported that negotiations are under way with Xerox to lease photocopiers for students to make copies at five cents per copy. Brent Jones then referred Directors to Page 44 of the Handbook, and briefly reviewed the items in the Services section.

Education V.P. Scott Robertson reported that the Hiring and Appointments Committee had been interviewing candidates for Senate, and that some of the recommended candidates would be presented to the Board later this evening for ratification of their appointments. He also stated that he had been working on revisions to the Academic Council, and these revisions will be brought to the Board in the near future.

External V.P. Marc Sicard reported that the date for the Parliamentary Commission has been put back from September 3rd to the 16th. The publicity campaign will be running from September 4th to October 4th.

Communications V.P. Gracie MacDonald announced that she is resigning from her position because she has been offered employment. She stated that she would be around to help out until arrangements are made for her replacement. She added that CUSA Today will be published in The Link on September 9th.

Programming V.P. Cherine Hamam distributed a report on her activities. She reported that the instructors for the mini-courses had been interviewed and will be selected by the end of the week. The schedule for the mini-courses will be published in early September, registration will take place the last two weeks of September, and the courses will run from October 6th to November 27th.

As representative for the Liaison Committee, Jim Locke stated that plans were under way for the next "Clubs on Campus" to be held at both campuses September 9th-11th. Notices had been distributed to all clubs and associations. He added that the Liaison Committee had discussed giving awards to the various booths for best presentation, most new recruits, etc., and suggested that these awards could be given by the Board and the Executives.

Karen Takacs reported that progress was being made in obtaining full autonomy for "The Link" and "the Concordian", and this should happen in October or November.

Karen Takacs stated that volunteers were needed to sit on the "Cheating and Plagiarism Committee". Tony Ghannamy, Cherine Hamam and John Moore volunteered.

(7:30)

1. Call to Order:

Quorum was obtained and Chairperson John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Karen Takacs suggested that Item 7(a) Cusacorp Budget be struck from the Agenda because there were no representatives present to answer questions. A request was made for the Academic Materials Fee to be added to New Business for motions resulting from the earlier discussion to be presented. Karen Takacs requested that the Senate Appointments be moved up under New Business because the candidates were present.

MOVE to approve the Agenda as amended.

Moved by: Jim Locke  
Seconded by: Tony Ghannamy

There were no objections to this motion.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Informal Meeting Held July 30, 1986:

MOVE to approve the Minutes of the Informal Meeting held July 30, 1986 as written.

Moved by: Jim Locke  
Seconded by: Tony Ghannamy

There were no objections to this Motion.

4. Chairperson's Remarks:

Chairperson John Moore had no additional comments at this time.

7. New Business:

a) Academic Materials Fee:

MOTION 326:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CUSA Board of Directors hereby gives the Co-Presidents the mandate to write a letter on behalf of the Board expressing concern over the Academic Materials Fee as stated at this meeting for the Rector and the Governors before the next Board of Governors meeting.

Moved by: Jim Locke  
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

VOTE ON MOTION 326:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 327:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT to show the strength of will of the Board regarding the letter in Motion 326, as an example the Board shall support the first student with financial aid in his/her approach to Small Claims Court.

Moved by: Jim Locke  
Seconded by: Tony Ghannamy

VOTE ON MOTION 327:

UNANIMOUS

(8:15)

5. Reports:

c) Reports on Dr. Kwok Chan/APSS:

Scott White reported that he had been unable to schedule a meeting with Dr. Dorothy Markiewicz, Chairperson of APSS, however they had been returning calls to each other. He stated that he had been able to obtain new documents in the Chan case, and these documents are available for viewing in the CUSA office (with the Secretary). These documents present the "other side of the story", and Chan's presentation of this "other side" is true to the facts in the new documents. Scott White added that he will continue to try and set up a meeting with Dr. Markiewicz.

6. Question Period:

Emma Tibaldo asked why all the social events for orientation are taking place at Loyola. Scott White explained that it is not only easier to hold events at Loyola but there are better facilities there as well. There have been increased security costs at Sir George which prohibit scheduling events downtown--so much so that one event for Sir George has been scheduled at The Spectrum because of costs involved. Scott White added that there are several events scheduled for downtown including a speaker, movies, Engineers' dance, LGFC dance, etc. Emma Tibaldo commented that it would appear that no effort has been made to have events of a general appeal scheduled for downtown. Karen Takacs responded that it is too expensive to hold bashes at Sir George.

Ian Fleet stated that he had been charged an additional \$200 fee for a "private study course" in the Music Department. He asked if this was legal now that there is the Academic Materials Fee. Scott White responded that other programs charge fees, for example the School of Community and Public Affairs and the Co-op Education. Scott Robertson promised to investigate this matter.

Jim Locke commented that disquieting and confusing remarks had been made at the last Executive Meeting by the External V.P. Marc Sicard responded that he has since talked with the Co-Presidents and clarified the issues, adding that he will have to decide whether or not to resign in the near future because of time constraints due to his full course load and because of differences of opinion between his view and the policy of the Co-Presidents. Francois Gurik asked what constituted the differences in opinion between Marc Sicard and the Co-Presidents. Marc Sicard stated that the major difference was CUSA's supposedly neutral status and its constant funding of religious and political groups. Karen Takacs wanted to clarify the situation and stated that Marc Sicard had expressed the view that the student movement in Quebec was unnecessary. Chairperson John Moore commented that the Board had not met its obligations to steer the executives this summer.

(8:30)

Francois Gurik suggested that the direction of the External Department portfolio should be brought before the Board for discussion at the next meeting. Jim Locke stated that it should be on the Agenda under the

heading of CUSA's External Policy. Karen Takacs recommended that Marc Sicard distribute a report outlining his view of the role and tasks of the External Department. She added that everyone should feel free to contribute their own ideas in this regard.

7. New Business:

b) Senate Appointments:

Scott Robertson stated that the Hiring and Appointments Committee recommends that the following candidates be ratified for Senate appointments: Paul Gott, Luc Beauchemin, Hans Fotouhinia, George Kalogerakis, Karen Takacs, and Scott Robertson. The Hiring and Appointments Committee also recommends Gilles Desharnais and Maureen Coulas, but these two candidates are not available for ratification this evening. Scott Robertson added that this would leave two more appointments to be made, and that these would be advertised in the papers once school starts.

Candidate: Paul Gott:

Paul Gott stated that he sat on Senate for three years (ending two years ago), and added that he has more faith in CUSA this year than he has had for the past two years.

Candidate: Luc Beauchemin:

Luc Beauchemin stated that he has been involved with the Design Students' Association for the past three years, and last year was involved with Senate on behalf of the Design Students' Association. He added that he understands the importance of student involvement.

Candidate: Hans Fotouhinia:

Hans Fotouhinia introduced himself as a Biology student and a member of the Science College and editor of the newsletter. He likes "to see things get done" and feels he can contribute.

Candidate: George Kalogerakis:

George Kalogerakis stated that he had been the production manager for the Handbook this year, and had been editor of "the Concordian". He feels that he has a lot of university knowledge, and that serving on Senate would be the best way to put this knowledge to good use.

Candidate: Karen Takacs:

Karen Takacs stated that she enjoyed sitting on Senate last year, and added that one of the Co-Presidents last year rarely showed up to Senate meetings and she would like to reverse that trend. She feels that Senate lends authority to what the students are saying.

Candidate: Scott Robertson:

Scott Robertson, as Education V.P., should sit on Senate as one of the duties of his portfolio.

MOTION 328:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the  
appointment of Scott Robertson to Senate.

Moved by: Emma Tibaldo  
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

VOTE ON MOTION 328:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 329:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the  
appointment of Paul Gott to Senate.

Moved by: Emma Tibaldo  
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

Discussion:

Ian Fleet wondered if perhaps it was time for someone fresh. Scott White stated that Paul Gott has valuable experience and a good reputation. Karen Takacs stated that strategy is very important in Senate (and was lacking last year), adding that Paul Gott is a very good strategist.

VOTE ON MOTION 329:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 330:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the  
appointment of Luc Beauchemin to Senate.

Moved by: Jim Locke  
Seconded by: Bettina Rosenberg

VOTE ON MOTION 330:

9/0/1 Carried

MOTION 331:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the  
appointment of Hans Fotouhinia to Senate.

Moved by: Bettina Rosenberg  
Seconded by: Emma Tibaldo

VOTE ON MOTION 331:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 332:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the  
appointment of George Kalogerakis to Senate.

Moved by: Bettina Rosenberg  
Seconded by: Emma Tibaldo



Discussion:

Scott White stated that although George Kalogerakis has no experience in student politics, as a former editor of "the Concordian" he knows quite a bit about the university and he is very enthusiastic and a hard worker.

VOTE ON MOTION 332:

UNANIMOUS

MOTION 333:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors ratifies the appointment of Karen Takacs to Senate.

VOTE ON MOTION 333:

9/0/1 Carried

(9:00)

c) ANEQ:

Scott White explained that the plan of action would be for the Board to formulate an opinion regarding membership in ANEQ, and then representatives from ANEQ would come to present their case. Marc Sicard stated that the representatives from ANEQ would be in attendance at the next Board meeting. He expressed the view that a student movement is no longer necessary because there are strong associations within institutions (such as CUSA) and there is no place for ANEQ. He cited as an example the coalition between CUSA, FAECUM and McGill and its ability to work without ANEQ. He also felt that the \$25,000 or more that would be spent for membership fees could be better utilised. Francois Gurik asked if ANEQ helps CUSA in any way. Marc Sicard responded that it probably did at one time, but added that it is a "national" student movement and is too aggressive in its pursuit of "nationalism". Karen Takacs stated that the membership fees mentioned earlier were wrong and that the cost for membership is \$16,000/year, as opposed to RAEU's fees of \$40,000/year or CFS's fees of \$84,000/year--and she argued that money should not be a factor in the discussion. Marc Sicard responded by stating that CUSA can do the job that ANEQ is doing. Ian Fleet questioned why CUSA should pull out at a time when there are some very important issues coming up such as the loans and bursaries issue. Ian Fleet asked if ANEQ worked as a common front for students and whether it achieved its goals. Scott White responded that sometimes ANEQ does, but went on to say that some people have complained that CUSA is not getting its money's worth. He added that with the combined resources of ANEQ, CUSA should be able to receive a weekly package from a centralized external office, but this is not happening. He suggested that this could be because of a top-heavy bureaucracy or maybe a shortage of staff.

Peter Wheeland stated that the problem is a lack of human resources, for example CUSA gives money but no volunteers. He said that the Board should consider the fundamental question: Could CUSA get along as an independent association in a crisis without a unified student movement? He added that there are too many choices in Quebec now and the movement cannot be solidified. He emphasized that the Board should take a careful look at what CUSA wants from a student movement.

Karen Takacs expressed that there is a very real need to have a unified voice, and if it costs \$16,000 it is worth it. She likened it to paying union dues--you do not just pay dues when there is a strike coming up. She stated that ANEQ is not fulfilling CUSA's needs because it is too

centralized. She added that although CUSA has been paying its fees and attending the congresses, CUSA has not done anything else, and if the External V.P. would nominate him/herself to ANEQ it would be to CUSA's benefit. She stated that the Board has to determine beforehand what CUSA will do instead if CUSA pulls out of ANEQ.

(9:15)

Scott Robertson felt that CUSA should align itself with people who will present CUSA's views. Peter Wheeland responded that everyone in an association would have to work together on all issues, not just the ones that CUSA was interested in for example. He added that RAEU and FAECUM and McGill are anxious to work with CUSA because it would mean new memberships for RAEU or another group to replace it. He cautioned that being independent will not save money and will probably cost more (e.g. to pay for a researcher, or the publicity campaign), stating that the short term savings is a false economy.

Chairperson John Moore stated that two executives from ANEQ will speak at the next Board meeting, and he advised the Directors to read over the documents on ANEQ to be prepared to ask intelligent questions of the ANEQ representatives.

d) Budgets:

Scott White distributed copies of the CUSA Budget for 1986-87, and advised the Directors to look it over for a discussion at the next Board meeting.

e) Cusacorp:

Emma Tibaldo asked who runs Cusacorp, how it runs, what their hiring policy is, and is it really necessary.

MOTION 334:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee composed of Directors and Executives will be struck to investigate Cusacorp and its present operations, the mandate to be decided by the committee members and presented for ratification at the next Board meeting, And a report to be presented to the Board within one month of the ratification of the mandate.

Moved by: Emma Tibaldo  
Seconded by: Tony Ghannamy

VOTE ON MOTION 334:

UNANIMOUS

The following Directors volunteered to serve on this committee together with

Craig McNamee, V.P. Finance:

Ian Fleet  
Tony Ghannamy  
Jim Locke  
Emma Tibaldo

f) Campus Radio:

Bettina Rosenberg introduced Paul Gott to present this item. Paul Gott stated that the campus radio gives students an opportunity to obtain "on-air" experience, however Cusacorp has not been using the student stations in the Campus Centre nor Reggie's Pub.

MOTION 335:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Cusacorp play CRSG and CIRL in the respective campuses except during pre-publicized events (movies and bashes).

Moved by: Bettina Rosenberg  
Seconded by: Emma Tibaldo

VOTE ON MOTION 335:

9/0/1 Carried

g) Next Meeting:

Chairperson John Moore announced that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m. in H-762.

8. Adjournment:

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

  
John Moore, Chairperson

  
Jo Howard, Recording Secretary